

Appln No. 10/759,808
Amdt date August 3, 2007
Reply to Office action of May 18, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-54 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 27, 53 and 54 are independent. Claims 1 and 27 have been amended to correct a minor typographical error and not for reasons related to patentability. Claims 13 and 37 have been canceled and re-cast in independent form as new claims 53 and 54, respectively. Support for the claims may be found, at least, in the claims in the application as originally-filed. No new matter has been added.

In the Office action dated May 3, 2007, the Examiner objected to FIG. 2 under 37 CFR § 1.83(a) because the drawing fails to show a pixel array of size $m \times n$ as described in the specification. Applicants have amended the description of the drawing in paragraphs [0016] and [0032] of the specification to clarify that FIG. 2 depicts one exemplary embodiment of a pixel array wherein m and n each equal eight. Accordingly, the objection to FIG. 2 has been overcome and the Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawing.

The Examiner also objected to claims 13 and 37 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have canceled claims 13 and 37 and re-written each claim in independent form as new claims 53 and 54, which include all of the limitations of the respective base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants therefore submit that new claims 53 and 54 are allowable.

In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 14-15, 17-18, 26-30, 38-39, 41-43 and 52 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly unpatentable over Takahashi (U.S. Patent No. 5,805,933). However, independent claim 1 calls for “[a] reconfigurable detector comprising: at least one array of a plurality of pixels, each of the plurality of pixels selected to receive and read-out an input,” and independent claim 27 calls for “[a] reconfigurable detector . . . comprising: at least one array of a plurality of pixels, each of the plurality of pixels selected to received and read-out an input.” Takahashi fails to teach or suggest these features. Rather, Takahashi appears to

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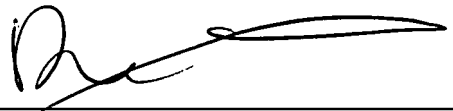
disclose an image processing apparatus that includes an image data codec having flip-flops for processing image data. (FIGs. 10, 17A-17D, 19 and 34). (Emphasis added). However, Takahashi does not teach “[a] . . . detector comprising: . . . pixels,” nor that “each of the plurality of pixels [are] selected to receive and read-out an input.” (Emphasis added). Takahashi teaches that images are delineated into pixels of image data (col. 8, lines 57-59), and does not teach a “detector comprising . . . pixels.” Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 27, and all claims dependent, therefrom, including claims 2-26 and 28-52, are allowable over Takahashi.

The Examiner also rejected claims 5-12, 16, 19-25, 31-36, 40 and 44-51 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Takahashi in view of one or more of Buican et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,117,466), Myrick (U.S. Patent Number 6,529,276), Yiannoulos (U.S. Patent Number 5,982,318), Jachimowicz (U.S. Patent Number 5,821,911), and Warner, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,937,318). However, each of claims, 5-12, 16, 19-25, 31-36, 40 and 44-51 depends from either independent claim 1 or independent claim 27, which are allowable over Takahashi as discussed above. None of Buican, Myrick, Yiannoulos, Jachimowicz and Warner, Jr. remedy the deficiencies of Takahashi, as none of these references teach or suggest the reconfigurable detector recited in either of claims 1 and 27. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 27 and all claims dependent therefrom, including claims 5-12, 16, 19-25, 31-36, 40 and 44-51 are allowable over Takahashi, Buican, Myrick, Yiannoulos, Jachimowicz and Warner, Jr.

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In view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that all of pending claims, 1-12, 14-36 and 38-54, are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and a timely indication of allowance. However, if there are any remaining issues that can be resolved by telephone, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact Applicants' counsel at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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